

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

JASON ZIRK *et al.*

Serial No.: *to be assigned*

Examiner: *to be assigned*

Filed: 3 March 2004

Art Unit: *to be assigned*

For: SINGLE BODY MULTI-TOOL DEVICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application

Commissioner for Patents

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, and §§1.97 and 1.98 as amended, Applicant cites, describes and provides copies of the following art references:

1. U.S. Patent No. 4,023,221 to Cadman, entitled *MULTIPURPOSE TOOL KIT AND FOLDING HANDLE THEREFOR*, issued on May 17, 1977;
2. U.S. Patent No. 4,700,420 to Belanger, entitled *MULTI-PURPOSE CAMPING TOOL*, issued on October 20, 1987;
3. U.S. Patent No. 5,103,520 to Mazzo, entitled *MULTI-PURPOSE HAND TOOL*, issued on April 14, 1992; and
4. U.S. Patent No. 6,357,067 to Jones, entitled *MULTIPURPOSE SNOW/ICE TOOL FOR BACKCOUNTRY TRAVEL*, issued on March 19, 2002.

Cadman '221 relates to a compact, lightweight tool kit and folding handle therefor. The tool kit includes a plurality of tool implements each of which may perform one or more work functions.

Each tool implement may be connected to the folding handle and is provided with a device to prevent relative rotation therebetween. The handle may be used in either a folded or an extended position with each tool implement, and is provided with a latch device to retain the following handle in a folded, an extended or an intermediate position. In the intermediate position a saw blade may be affixed to the handle.

Belanger '420 relates to a multi-purpose camping tool having components which are structured to be combined together to form a pole ladder, an ax, a trenching spade, a hoe, a grapple hook, tool devices and a saw frame. The components include a spade blade, tool heads, handle connecting elements, and a pair of elongated segments having a novel structure and parts which cooperate to provide these several multi-purpose tools.

Mazzo '520 relates to a multi-purpose tool, partly foldable, useful as a hammer/pick, probe/ruler, knife/saw, spade/trowel, and even as a bottle-opener. Various embodiments are characterized by degrees of folding to compact stowed form and of unfolding to particular use configurations.

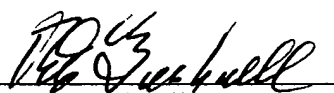
Jones '067 relates to a multipurpose snow tool for backcountry travel which is a modified ice ax having a toothed pick at one end, an adze at the other and a shank therebetween having holes therein large enough to reduce weight without compromising structural integrity. The shank having shock absorbing upper spacers thereabout for insertion into the upper portion of a shaft of varying length depending upon user's physique. Lower spacers surround a combined reversible integrated spike saw held within said shaft, said spacers enclosing a pair of locking buttons supported by leaf springs to secure the spike saw in the lower shaft and to permit easy withdrawal therefrom and reversal for saw use. Furthermore, the invention includes a shovel blade having a sleeve like projection sized to snugly fit around the lower portion of said shaft which is always ready for use when attached while said spike is exposed. Thus, by depressing both buttons simultaneously, the spike saw is removed and reversed. When the spike is in the exposed position, the shovel blade can

be quickly attached with a leashed bolt and wing nut.

The citation of the foregoing references is not intended to constitute an assertion that other or more relevant art does not exist. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to make a wide-ranging and thorough search of the relevant art.

No fee is incurred by this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,


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